

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 BIB-01 /078 W
-----114146 251518Z /64

P 251456Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2181
INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, SOPN, UR, IR, PEPR
SUBJECT: IZVESTIYA CRITICISM OF IRANIAN AMBASSADOR TO U.S.

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. MAY 24 IZVESTIYA CARRIES
"RETORT" COLUMN BY S. KONDRASHOV ON UNUSUAL TOPIC OF
ALLEGED ANTI-SOVIET REMARKS MADE IN U.S. BY IRANIAN
AMBASSADOR TO U.S. ZAHEDI. KONDRASHOV CLAIMS THAT, IN
GENERAL, ZAHEDI'S MANY PUBLIC APPEARANCES IN U.S. ARE
FILLED WITH "BILE AND LIES" WITH REGARD TO SOVIET UNION.
HE SPECIFICALLY TAKES ZAHEDI TO TASK FOR HIS REPORTED
ANTI-COMMUNIST, ANTI-SOVIET COMMENTS MADE AT RECENT
WASHINGTON ARMY-NAVY CLUB GATHERING.
2. KONDRASHOV ASKS RHETORICALLY IF ZAHEDI HAS TAKEN INTO
ACCOUNT FACT THAT HIS BEHAVIOR
"DIRECTLY CONTRADICTS THE INTERESTS OF GOOD-NEIGHBORLY
SOVIET-IRANIAN RELATIONS." EVEN AS EXPERIENCED A DIPLOMAT

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AS ZAHEDI, SAYS KONDRASHOV, CANNOT RECONCILE HIS HOSTILE
ATTACKS ON THE SOVIET UNION WITH THE OFFICIAL POSITION
OF THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT. (END UNCLASSIFIED).

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY CANNOT RECALL ANOTHER RECENT
EXAMPLE OF SOVIET MEDIA ATTACK ON DIPLOMAT IN A THIRD
COUNTRY. SINCE EVEN KONDRASHOV ADMITS THAT ZAHEDI'S

PRESENT REMARKS ARE CONSISTENT WITH WHAT HE HAS SAID IN
PAST (NO REMARKS ON AFGHANISTAN ARE CITED), WE PRESUME
THAT APPEARANCE OF THIS ARTICLE IS DESIGNED TO BRING
ADDITIONAL, LOW-KEY PRESSURE TO BEAR ON IRANIAN GOVERNMENT
AT THIS TIME OF REGIONAL TURBULENCE. MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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TAGS: PDIP, SOPN, PEPR, UR, IR, (ZAHEDI, ARDESHIR)
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